justice of equal opportunity to all citizens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The applicants did not meet the requirements of the selection criteria.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) No, Sir. There is no cause of action.

Pricing of Naphtha

1186. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to dismantle the APM for Naphtha supplies to IPPs in India;

(b) if so, how the Naphtha price for supplies to IPPs will be determined; and

(c) what will be the saving in oil pool deficit on account of such pricing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) As per the latest supply demand balace for Naphtha/FO/LSHS, there will be a deficit of these products in the country even without considering demand of IPPs. Therefore, almost the entire IPP demand has to be met through imports. PSU Oil Campanies are gearing up to meet this challege. In this regard, it has been decided that pricing of liquid fuels for IPPs would be outside the administered pricing mechanism (APM) and there will be no linkage, in any manner, with the oil pool account. The pricing will be on import cost basis which is the most transparent method and will include CIF price, Customs duty, CVD, port charges plus service charges for handling storing and other service functions of the oil companies and the transportation cost from the port to IPPs locations. The pricing and supply of Naphtha for IPPs will have no relation and impect on oil pool deficit.

Model for Supply of liquid Fuel

1187. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently finalised a Model FSA for liquid fuel supply by public sector oil companies to IPPs in India;

(b) if so, the salient features of the draft FSA including fuel risk allocation proposed; and

(c) whether the said draft FSA has been confirmed as bankable by prospective project lenders including Indian Financial Institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The model fuel supply agreement has not yet been finalised. Discussions are on with IPPs, project lenders including Indian Financial Instituions and Ministry of Power on the basis of a draft model FSA.

Increase of Quota of LPG Distributors

1188. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed by Government for increase of quota of LPG distributors;

(b) the number of requests from the LPG distributors received to increase their consumers during 1996-97 till date;

(c) whether all the requests have been considered;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Due to product constraint. LPG connections are released, in a phased manner, keeping in view the annual

enrolment plan and slack available with the distributor. Following preferential/ priority criteria are currently being followed for release of connections at present.

1. Hilly areas
2. Taj Trapezium
3. Tatkal Scheme
4. Customers registered prior to 1.1. 1991
5. M.P. Priority connections
6. Distributors operating below the viability level.
7. Release 1000 connections to newly commissioned distributorships in two instalments.
8. Balance LPG connections are released through distributors operating above viability limit, in accordance with norms developed by each oil company.

(b) to (e) Requests are received from time to time from LPG distributors for release of additional LPG connections, which are forwarded to oil companies for release of connections in accordance with the policy of the company in view of total enrolment available to the company and after following above-priorities.

Leasing of Oil Fields to Private Parties

1189. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are strong protests on the leasing of several oil fields to private parties;

(b) if so, whether CAG in its report have also criticised Government to lease out the oil fields to private parties;

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(d) the immediate steps Government propose to take to cancel leasing of oil fields in favour of private parties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Government of India is aware of protests from certain quarters on the award of discovered oil fields to private parties.

(b) and (c) The report No. 5 (Commercial) of 1996 on "Participation of private parties with ONGC in production of crude oil and natural gas" of CAG has already been laid on the table of the House on 27th February, 1997.

(d) The contracts for development of discovered fields have been signed in pursuance of a considered policy decision of the Government and there is no proposal to cancel these contracts.

Petrol consumption in Gujarat

1190. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the annual per-capita petrol and natural gas consumption in Gujarat and other States and the country as a whole as on the 30th June, 1997;

(b) the reasons for less supply of natural LPG to Gujarat in comparison to its requirement;

(c) the annual demand of natural gas and petrol in each district, district-wise in the State during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) the measures taken or to be taken by the Central Government to bring the demand at per with national level; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (e) Petrol is not an allocated product and it is being supplied to the retail outlets to meet the full market demand including in the State of Gujarat. The quantity of petrol supplied to the State of Gujarat and other States and the country as a whole during April-June, 1997 is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

Details regarding sale of petrol in the State district-wise during the last three years is given in Statement-II (*See* below).